

**City of Harrington
MINUTES
City Council Meeting
November 16, 2015**

Open Forum

Barbara Bullock asked if resolutions and ordinances are published with the meeting packet. The Clerk of Council replied yes. Ms. Bullock thanked the Council for having an open forum and public comments.

A meeting of the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on November 16, 2015 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Vice Mayor Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Fonda Coleman; Council Member Eric Marquis; Council Member Amy Minner; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; William Pepper, City Solicitor; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Dean Gary, Accountant; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Aubrey Brown, City Chaplain; Richard Baker, Harrington Police Department; Albert Biddle, Kent County Housing and Community Development; and Barbara Bullock.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Invocation was given by the City Chaplain.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll was called.

K-9 Marshall

The Chief of Police stated that K-9 Marshall was purchased using grant money.

Officer Baker stated that he trained with the dog for four weeks in North Carolina then for nine weeks at the Delaware State Police Academy. Marshall is trained in tracking narcotics as well as biting.

The City Council Meeting recessed at 7:05 p.m. to watch a K-9 demonstration.

The City Council Meeting was called back to order at 7:12 p.m.

Public Hearing on City of Harrington's request to apply for funds under the Community Development Block Grant for 2016

Albert Biddle stated that about two million dollars (\$2,000,000) is allotted for Kent and Sussex Counties, excluding Dover. Primarily, funding has been for housing rehabilitation, although there have been smaller infrastructure and demolition projects done. The City of Harrington received funding of seventy-two thousand dollars (\$72,000) for the current fiscal year. There are close to three dozen people on the waiting list that have requested housing rehabilitation projects to be done in Harrington.

Council Member Porter asked what the guidelines are for funding. Mr. Biddle stated that the house must be owner occupied, and the owner must be low to moderate income.

Council Member Porter asked if roofs on several houses could be replaced at once. Mr. Biddle stated that the program requires that all substandard conditions be corrected at a house, so just a roof could not be done if other problems exist.

Mr. Biddle stated that having a waiting list indicates a need in the community, which helps get funding.

The City Chaplain asked why it takes so long to have projects funded. Mr. Biddle stated that it is based on federal funding availability.

Minutes

The Clerk of Council stated that the minutes for the October 19, 2015 City Council Meeting are not ready.

Mayor Moyer stated that there is a typo in the Open Forum section of the October 5, 2015 City Council Workshop minutes.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Coleman, to approve the minutes for the October 5, 2015 City Council Workshop as amended. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Financial Report

Mayor Moyer stated that that restricted funds are greater than the total available funds. The Accountant stated that he is waiting for the audit to be complete to add in the balance forward.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Coleman, to file the Financial Report for audit. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Old Business

Public Hearing on Ordinance 15-14 – Amending Chapter 440, Zoning, to amend signage in the Service Commercial, Manufacturing, and Industrial Park Manufacturing Zones

There were no comments from the public.

Second Reading of Ordinance 15-14 – Amending Chapter 440, Zoning, to amend signage in the Service Commercial, Manufacturing, and Industrial Park Manufacturing Zones

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Coleman, to only read the synopsis of Ordinance 15-14. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Mayor Moyer read the synopsis of Ordinance 15-14:

This Ordinance amends Chapter 440 to clarify sign regulations in C-1 and C-2 Zones, and in C-3, M, and IMP Zones, it adds up to thirty-two (32) square feet of signage for establishments with more than one street frontage.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Marquis, seconded by Council Member Minner, to accept the second reading of Ordinance 15-14. Roll was called: 6 Yes, 0 No (Bivans – Yes, Coleman – Yes, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Porter – Yes, Stubbs – Yes). The MOTION passed unanimously.

New Business

Resolution 15-R-12 – Authorizing the Mayor to submit the FY 2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application and the Levy Court of Kent County to act as the official representatives

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Minner, to approve Resolution 15-R-12. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-13 – Supporting the goals of the Federal Fair Housing Law

Mayor Moyer read Resolution 15-R-13.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to accept Resolution 15-R-13. The MOTION passed unanimously.

2016 CIP reallocation of funds

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Coleman, to approve the CIP expenditure of fifty-three thousand four hundred eighty two dollars (\$53,482) for new vehicles, a lawn mower, and the refurbishing of snow plow blades with funding from the sale of obsolete vehicles totaling seventy-six thousand nine hundred thirty-one dollars (\$76,931) and to approve the additional expenditures of five thousand forty-eight dollars (\$5,048) for a fire alarm and security system at the Public Works Yard and five hundred ninety-four dollars (\$594) for duress buttons in City Hall. Roll was called: 6 Yes, 0 No (Bivans – Yes, Coleman – Yes, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Porter – Yes, Stubbs – Yes). The MOTION passed unanimously.

2016 holiday schedule

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Minner, to accept the 2016 holiday schedule as presented. The MOTION passed unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 15-15 – Amending Chapter 440, Zoning, related to the requirement to pave parking spaces

Council Member Porter asked why this issue was raised. The City Manager stated that there had been questions, and it clarifies what is required in the Code.

Mayor Moyer asked if it applies to existing parking spots. Council Member Minner stated that it only applies when improvements are made. The City Solicitor stated that the requirement has been in place since about 2006.

Mayor Moyer read Ordinance 15-15.

Council Member Porter asked what the difference between blacktop and type C hot mix asphalt is. Council Member Stubbs stated that it is a different texture. Council Member Porter stated that both terms should not be used in the section. Council Member Marquis recommended changing the word “blacktopped” to “improved.”

Discussion occurred regarding paving spots for campers and RVs.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to approve the first reading of Ordinance 15-15 as amended by changing the word "blacktopped" to "improved." The MOTION passed unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 15-16 – Amending the Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2013 to adopt a new Future Land Use Map

The City Solicitor stated that the Comprehensive Plan indicated properties that would have the land use changed. When the Comprehensive Rezoning took place, there were some owners that indicated that they did not want their property rezoned. The City Council agreed, so the Land Use Map must be changed to reflect the decision not to rezone those properties.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to dispense with the reading of Ordinance 15-16. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Mayor Moyer read the synopsis for Ordinance 15-16:

This Ordinance adopts an amended future land use map for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2013 to accommodate the properties that were not rezoned as part of the comprehensive rezoning project.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Minner, to accept the first reading of Ordinance 15-16. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Date change for the December Council Meeting

The City Manager stated that the regular City Council meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2015, which is a holiday week.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to change the date of the December 21, 2015 Council Meeting to January 4, 2016. The motion was withdrawn.

Vice Mayor Bivans objected to having a council meeting in place of a workshop.

The City Solicitor stated that the Charter requires the City Council to meet at least once per month.

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Bivans, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to move the December 21, 2015 City Council Meeting to

December 14, 2015. Roll was called: 6 Yes, 0 No (Bivans – Yes, Coleman – Yes, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Porter – Yes, Stubbs – Yes). The MOTION passed unanimously.

Public Works generator repair

Mayor Moyer stated that the generator for the wells failed and the repairs are substantial. The City Manager stated that the back-up plan while the generator is being repaired is to use a generator secured by the Chief of Police from the LESO program and Roy's Electric can have a generator for the City to use within an hour, if needed.

Mayor Moyer stated that the generator from LESO can be made portable, and the City can add outlets to the City buildings to make the use of the generator for any City building quicker and easier.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to approve the expenditures from the Water Contingency Account for repair of back-up Cummins Generator supporting the City's main well house and to approve the additional electrical work to install outlets at City buildings to connect an emergency generator. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Syrian refugees

Mayor Moyer stated that Governor Markel is in favor of turning Delaware into a sanctuary state, and that he is adamantly against it. Mayor Moyer asked each Council Member if they supported sending a letter to representatives opposing being a sanctuary state and each replied yes.

Public Comments

The City Chaplain asked for prayers for the Dean family on their loss and stated that he is concerned about home invasions. The City Chaplain stated that he opposes allowing Syrian refugees into the country.

Barbara Bullock asked where the letter is being sent.

City Council Comments

Council Member Porter stated that Mrs. Irene Dean was always a big supporter of the City, and the City should do something for the Dean family.

Council Member Porter stated that a member of the Fire Company is supposed to attend council meetings.

Vice Mayor Bivans stated that Connections has opened and better lighting is needed there. Mayor Moyer stated that he can talk to them; they do have outdoor security cameras. The Chief of Police stated that there was one incident there but nothing major.

Vice Mayor Bivans asked about the status of the Council chambers. There was an estimate in the packet that was a cost reduction but is still expensive.

The City Manager stated that an estimate was distributed to enclose the lobby at City Hall and install bullet proof glass and a steel door. Mayor Moyer stated that security needs to be upgraded. Council Member Porter requested a special meeting to vote on this issue on December 7, 2015 after the workshop.

Council Member Minner commended the Police Department for an incident that happened the prior week.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to adjourn the City Council Meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council